

ARTICLES
OF
VISITATION and ENQUIRY
Concerning MATTERS

Ecclesiastical :

EXHIBITED

To the Ministers, Church-wardens, and
Side-men of every Parish within the

DIOCESE of NORWICH.

In the Primary Visitation of the

Right Reverend Father in God, **ANTHONY,**
By Divine Permission

Lord Bishop of **N O R W I C H.**



L O N D O N,
Printed for *Robert Pawlet*, at the Bible in *Chancery-*
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*The Tenour of the Oath to be administred to
the Church-wardens of every Parish.*

YOU shall Swear uprightly and truly to
execute the Office of Church-warden
without Favour or Malice, hope of
Reward, or fear of Displeasure, so far as by
Law you are bound.

So help you God.

The Side-mens Oath.

YOU shall Swear that you will be assist-
ant to your Church-wardens in the
Execution of their Office, so far as
by Law you are bound.

So help you God.

(I)



ARTICLES
OF
VISITATION and ENQUIRY
Within the
Diocese of NORWICH.

TIT. I.

Concerning Churches, Chappels, with the Ornaments and Furniture thereunto belonging.



S your Parish-Church or Chappel in *Can.85.*
good and sufficient repair, both for
the Roof, Windows, Floor and Seats?

2. Hath any part of your Church,
Chappel, or Steeple been demolished
or pulled down? what part, and
how long since? or any of the Lead,
Timber or Bells thereunto formerly

belonging, any way imbezelled or sold, and by whom?

3. Is there a decent Font of stone with a cover? and
doth the same stand at or neer the nether end of your *Can.81.*
Church, in such manner as anciently and usually Fonts have
stood for the baptizing of Children? Doth the Minister

A 2

baptize

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82. baptize publicly only in the Font? Is there a decent Communion-table in your Chancel, with a decent Carpet, and another Covering of white linnen, to be spread thereon at the time of the Administration of the Lords Supper? and have you a fair Chalice or Communion-cup, with a cover, and one or more Flagons? have they been profan'd by common use?
82. 4. Have you a convenient Seat or Pew wherein to read
 83. Divine Service? a Pulpit with a decent Cloth or Cushion;
 80. a large Bible of the last translation, and a book of Common-prayer lately published, *Anno* 1662. the book of Homilies set forth by Authority; and a printed table of the degrees wherein marriages are prohibited, and a book of Canons and Constitutions Ecclesiastical; and a decent Surplice and Hood?
87. 5. Have you a Register-book in parchment of Christenings, Burials, and Marriages; and is the same kept in all points according to the ancient use?
70. 6. Have you a book of paper, to record the names and licenses of such Strangers as are admitted to Preach in your Church or Chappel? and do such Strangers subscribe their names? As also a third book for the Church-wardens accounts? as also a Chest with locks and keys, wherein to keep the said books, and the aforementioned Furniture?

T I T. II.

Concerning the Church-yard, the Houses, Glebes and Tythes belonging to the Church.

1. **I**S your Church-yard sufficiently fenced, and decently kept? Hath any person encroached upon the same, or made any door into it? and how long since?

2. Is the House of your Parson, Vicar or Curate, and the Out-houses in good repair? have any of them been defaced

ced or pulled down without license? have there been any encroachments made upon the same, or any of the ancient marks or bounds removed or Changed? and by whom?

3. Have you a true and perfect Terrier of all the Glebelands, Gardens, Orchyards, Tenements or Cottages belonging to your Parsonage or Vicarage? As also a note of such Pensions, Rate-tythes, and portions, of Tythes, or other yearly profits (either within or without your Parish) as belong thereunto? Have any of the same been withheld from your Minister? and by whom, as you know, or have heard? C. 87.

TIT. III.

Concerning Ministers.

IS your Minister a Priest or Deacon, Episcopally ordained, according to the Laws of the Church of *England*?

2. Hath he been legally instituted and inducted into his Benefice? And did he within two moneths after his induction, publickly in the Church upon some Sunday or Holiday, in the time of Divine Service, read the 39 Articles of the Church of *England*, established by Authority, and there publickly declare his assent thereunto?

3. Is he resident among you? how many weeks hath he been absent from you without urgent necessity?

4. Hath your Minister a Curate? Is he in holy Orders, and conformable to the Laws of the Church? Is he allow'd by the Ordinary? Can. 47.

5. Doth your Parson, Vicar, Curate or Lecturer, if you have any, perform his Office in all things according to the Rubrick of the book of Common prayer lately established, and the Act of Uniformity published therewith? without either diminishing in regard of preaching or in any other respect, or adding any thing in the matter or form. 14.

6. Doth your Minister saying the publick prayers and administering 58.

ministring the Sacraments, wear a Surplice and Hood according to his degree?

7. Doth he observe the Holy-days and Fasting-days, the Ember-weeks, and the yearly Perambulation in Rogation-week, as is appointed by the Rubrick?

45,46, 8. Is your Minister licensed to preach? if so, doth he
47. constantly (not having a reasonable impediment) preach one Sermon in your Church or Chappel every Sunday? or if he be not licensed, or be hindred, doth he procure one to supply his Office by preaching or reading one of the Homilies?

Can. 59. 9. Doth your Minister instruct the youth in your Parish
Rubr. before Con- in the Church-Catechism, and prepare and present them to
firm. be confirmed by the Bishop?

67. 10. Doth he neglect or delay to visit the Sick, or to
69. baptize any Infant that is in danger of death? Doth he baptize any without Godfathers and Godmothers, or admit either of the Parents to be Godfather or Godmother to their own Children?

62. 11. Hath your Minister married any persons without publishing the Banns on three Sundays or Holidays, or hath he married any in private houses, or not between the hours of Eight and Twelve in the morning, unless he had a license or dispensation so to do?

72. 12. Hath your Minister taken upon him to appoint any
73. publick or private Fasts, Prophesyings or Exercises not appointed by Authority? Or doth he, or any other, either Minister or Lay person hold any Conventicles or meetings in private houses within your parish, for people of several Families to resort unto, under the pretence of Preaching, Praying, Thanksgiving or Humiliation, contrary to the Laws and Canons in that case provided?

75. 13. Is your Parson, Vicar, Curate or Lecturer, a man of a sober life and conversation? or is his carriage in any kind disorderly or scandalous, and unbeseeming a Minister?

TIT. IV.

Concerning the Parishioners.

1. **I**S there any in your Parish that make profession of any other Religion than what is established in the Church of *England*? And that refuse to come unto the Publick Assemblies, Prayers, or Service of the Church? If there be any, what are their names? *Act for uniformity 1 Q. Eliz.*

2. Is there any person in your parish, that lyeth under a common fame, or suspicion of Adultery, Fornication, or Incest? Are there any common Drunkards within your Parish, or common Swearers, or blasphemers of Gods Name, or any that are noted to be Railers, unclean or filthy talkers, or sowers of sedition, faction and discord among their neighbours?

3. Do any of your Parish upon Sundays or Holy-days follow their bodily and ordinary labour, or permit their servants so to do? Are any Shops kept open, or Wares sold? Or do any Vintners, Inn-keepers, or other Victuallers and Sellers of Beer and Ale, suffer any persons to tipple or game in their houses upon those days?

4. Doth every Person in your Parish duely resort to your Church or Chappel upon Sundayes and Holy-dayes, and as well during Divine Service, as Preaching the Word of God, demean themselves reverently, uncovering their heads, kneeling at Prayers, standing up when the Creed and Gospel are read? *Can. 13.*
18.
Rubr.

5. Is there any in your Parish that refuse to send their Infant-children to be baptized in the Church, unless in case of urgent danger? or do they send them to be baptized in other Parishes? or are they baptized after other form than is appointed? or are they kept unbaptized longer than is allowed? or are there any Infants or more aged persons as yet unbaptized? *Rubr. of Bapt.*
6. Is

112. 6. Is there any person in your Parish of 16 years of age who
Rubr. after doth not receive the Sacrament three times in the year, of
Commun. which *Easter* is always to be one? Doth any refuse to re-
 27, 28. ceive it kneeling, or resort to other Parishes? or do any
 Strangers come to your Parish-Church to receive it?

65. 7. Are there any in your Parish that be denounced and
 declared excommunicate for any crime committed? How
 long have they been so excommunicated? and do any of
 your Parish keep society with them before they be reconcil-
 ed to the Church, and absolved?

Express in 8. Are there any living in your Parish, who have been
a table set unlawfully married, contrary to the Laws of God? or any
forth by that being lawfully divorced have married again? or any
Authority that being lawfully married, and not separated or divorced
Anno Dom. by course of Law, do not cohabit together?
 1563.

99. 9. Are there any married women in your Parish, who af-
 107. ter their delivery from the peril of Child-birth, refuse to
 make their publick thanksgiving to God in the Church?
 And when they come so to do, do they come decently ap-
 parcelled, and make their offerings according to custom?

Rubr. 10. Are there any that refuse to pay their duty for *Easter*-
 Can. 85. offerings, or refuse to contribute to the Rates made for the
 repair of your Church or Chappel, or any thing thereunto
 belonging?

Rubr. b. 11. Do any refuse to bury their dead according to the
 Rites of the Church of *England*? and are there any Wills or
 Testaments of Persons dead in your Parish, that be yet
 unproved? or any Goods administered without a due grant
 from the Ordinary? did any dying in your Parish, or else-
 where, leave any Legacy to your Church or Chappel, or to
 the use of the Poor, or to any other pious and charitable
 purposes? What were those Legacies, and how have they
 been bestowed?

12. Is there any strife and contention among any of your
 Parish for their Pews or Seats in your Church? Have any
 new Pews been erected in your Chancel, or in the body of
 your

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your Church or Chappel, without leave from the Ordinary?

14. Doall, and every housholder of your Parish, Fathers, *Can. 59.* Masters, Mothers, and Mistresses, cause their children, servants, and apprentices, which have not learn'd their Catechism, to come unto the Church on Sundays and Holy-days in the afternoon, obediently to hear, and to be ordered by the Minister till they have learn'd the same?

T I T. V.

Concerning Parish-clerks and Sextons.

1. **H**AVE you belonging to your Church or Chappel a *Can. 91.* Parish-Clerk, aged 21 yeares at the least? Is he of honest life and conversation? and sufficient or able to perform his duty in reading, writing and singing? Is he chosen by your Minister, and doth he duly attend him in all Divine Services at the Church? are his wages duly paid unto him? or who withholdeth the same from him?

2. Doth he diligently do his duty in keeping the Church clean and decent, in tolling and ringing the Bells before Divine Service, and when any person is passing out of this life, doth he upon notice toll a Bell, that the neighbours may thereby be warn'd to recommend the dying person to the grace and favour of God?

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TIT. VI.

Concerning School-masters, Schools, Physicians, Chirurgeons and Midwives.

- Can. 77. 1. **D**oth any man keep a publick or private School in your Parish, who is not allowed thereunto by his Ordinary? doth he teach his Scholars the Catechism of Religion set forth by Authority? doth he cause his Scholars upon Sundays or Holy-days orderly to repair to your Church or Chappel, and see that they behave themselves quietly and reverently during the time of Divine Service and Sermon?
79. 2. Doth any in your Parish practise Physick or Chirurgery? or any woman take upon her to exercise the Office of Midwife, without licence from the Ordinary?

TIT. VII.

Concerning Church-wardens and Side-men.

- Can. 89. 1. **A**Re the Church-wardens of your Parish yearly and duly chosen by the joynt consent of your Minister and Parishioners? or one of them by your Minister, and the other by the Parishioners?
2. Have the former and last Church-wardens given up their accounts to the Parish, and delivered up to the succeeding Church-wardens the moneys remaining in their hands, together with all other things belonging to your Church or Chappel?
3. You are farther to understand, That according to your Office, you are to provide against every Communion appointed in your Church or Chappel, a sufficient quantity of

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of fine white Bread, and of good Wine, according to the number of Communicants.

T I T. VIII.

Concerning Ecclesiastical Offices and Fees.

1. **W**Hat peculiar, or exempt Jurisdictions be claimed or executed in your Parish?
2. Be there any Ecclesiastical Judges, or any Clerks and Ministers under them, who do take or exact extraordinary Fees, against the Canons, or Tables which set forth those Fees, which have come to your knowledge?
3. Are there to this purpose two Registers or Tables containing the several Rates of Fees due to each Officer, the one publickly proposed in the Consistory-Court, the other in the Registry, that every Subject may take view and notice thereof?
4. Do Clerks or others take any thing by way of gratuity for expedition? *Ca. 134.*
5. Do you know or have you heard of any payment, composition, or promise made to any Ecclesiastical Officer, for conniving at any fault committed, for sparing any person, for misdemeanour for Ecclesiastical cognizance, concealing of any Excommunication? what Sums have come to your knowledge, or be of publick fame? who are the delinquents.
6. What commutation hath been given, by whom, to whom, for what offence? how hath it been employed?
7. Do any Ecclesiastical Judges speed any Act private-ly of themselves? *Ca. 123.*
8. What number of Apparitors be there in the several Jurisdictions? *Ca. 138.*
9. What bribes or exactions have any of them taken? Do they execute their office by Substitutes? *Ca. 138.*

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Ca. 127. 10. Are the Surrogates men of honest and sober conversation?

You also are to exhibit a Bill of Presentments to this Court, of all and every the Offenders in any of the Matters mentioned in the precedent Articles, and therein to take the assistance of your Minister.

The Ministers of every Parish are desir'd to give in the names of such of the younder sort in their several Parishes, as they Judg fit to receive Confirmation from the Bishop, and to present them to be confirmed.

F I N I S.

